



NEWS



June 14, 2012

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William C. Killian Eastern District of Tennessee

Piney Flats Woman Sentenced For Distributing Oxycodone

GREENEVILLE, Tenn. - Ann Evamay Noor, 56, formerly of Piney Flats, Tenn., was sentenced to serve 14 months in prison for distributing oxycodone prescribed to her by a Knoxville doctor.

As set out in her plea agreement, Noor, the wife of Dr. Sidi Noor, received prescriptions for oxycodone (including OxyContin), fentanyl, and diazepam from Dr. Frank McNiel of Bearden Healthcare Associates in Knoxville. Noor reported she was addicted to fentanyl, a synthetic narcotic having a potency a hundred times that of morphine, and that she sold the oxycodone and some of the OxyContin prescribed to her. During August 2010 Noor sold oxycodone to an informant at her residence in Piney Flats. Over \$10,000 in cash was seized from her residence during the execution of a federal search warrant in September 2010.

Pharmacy records confirmed the quantity of drugs which Noor reported being prescribed by Dr. McNiel. In July 2010 Noor received and filled prescriptions for: 450 oxycodone 30 mg tablets; 240 OxyContin 80 mg tablets; 90 fentanyl transdermal patches; 360 diazepam 10 mg tablets; and 600 carisoprodol 350 mg tablets.

In pronouncing sentence, U.S. District Judge Ronnie Greer noted "the human and societal costs" associated with the growing problem of prescription drug abuse. Judge Greer cited a September 2011 Los Angeles Times article which reported statistics from the Centers for Disease Control that deaths due to prescription drug overdoses in the United States outnumbered traffic fatalities and that prescription drugs caused more deaths than cocaine and heroin combined. Judge Greer also noted a May 2012 article from The Tennessean reporting that over 18 million prescriptions for controlled substances such as OxyContin were dispensed in Tennessee last year - a 23 percent increase from the previous year. Judge Greer told Noor "you are not alone . . . the doctors who over-prescribe these drugs are complicit in these crimes and are complicit in these statistics."

In addition to the prison term, Noor was also ordered to serve three years of supervised release, which included requirements for drug testing and treatment. Noor also agreed to forfeit the \$10,855 seized during the search of her residence.

The charges were the result of an investigation by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Second Judicial District Drug Task Force, and Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant U.S. Attorney Neil Smith represented the United States.

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